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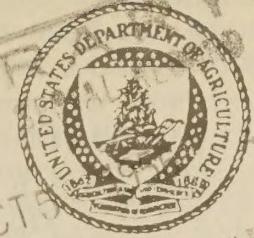
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NORTH CAROLINA



Farm Report

COOPERATIVE CROP REPORTING SERVICE

NO. 215 ~~re 216~~

RALEIGH, N. C.

SEPTEMBER 24, 1956

N. C. SEPTEMBER CORN ESTIMATE UNCHANGED

Based on condition and probable yield reports from growers, production from the 1956 corn crop is forecast at 72,853,000 bushels, the same as on August 1. If the estimated production materializes, it will be the second largest of record, exceeded only in 1950 when production amounted to 74,184,000 bushels.

A record yield per acre is indicated at 37.0 bushels, three bushels above the previous record set in 1955 and 8.4 bushels above average.

In all areas outside of the Coastal Plains the crop condition and probable yield reports indicated a decline from August 1. These areas consisting of the Mountains and Piedmont remained dry to very dry throughout most of the month. In these areas the decline in probable yield was off-set by improved reported yield prospects in the Coastal Plains, especially the heavy producing central

Continued on Page 2

PEANUT CROP FORECAST AT 294 MILLION POUNDS

North Carolina peanut production as of September 1 is estimated at 294 million pounds compared with 204 million pounds in 1955 and 287 million for the 10-year average. If a crop of this size is realized, it will be the largest since 1952 when slightly more than 300 million pounds were produced.

The crop is mostly good to excellent and indications are for a yield of 1,500 pounds per acre compared with last year's low yield of 1,075 pounds and 1,218 pounds for the 10-year average. The low yield of 1955 was a result of heavy damage brought about by hurricanes.

FLUE-CURED PRODUCTION SHOWS INCREASE, BURLEY DOWN

Increased prospective yields bring the estimated production of flue-cured tobacco in North Carolina up to 868,-550,000 pounds, an increase of 21.6 million pounds over the forecast of a month ago. Such a production would be short of the record 978,775,000 flue-cured poundage for 1955 by only 11.3 percent instead of the 13.5 percent decrease expected as of August 1.

Based on reports from producers and on market surveys, current estimated flue-cured yields by types are from 25 to 50 pounds higher than they were a month earlier. The expected yield for Type 11 is now up to 1,300 pounds, that for Type 12 has risen to 1,625 and Type 13 has increased to 1,600 as

Continued on Page 2

COTTON REPORT AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1956

Based upon conditions as of September 1, the 1956 Tar Heel cotton crop is forecast at 340,000 bales of 500 pounds gross weight. A crop of this size would be 11,000 bales, or 3.1 percent, less than the 351,000 bales harvested last year and 117,000 bales less than the 10-year (1945-54) average.

The September 1 lint yield per acre is estimated at 363 pounds, compared with 350 pounds last year and the 10-year average yield of 321 pounds.

Based upon cotton in cultivation July 1 and average abandonment, it is estimated that 450,000 acres will be harvested this year. This is the smallest cotton acreage harvested since records began in 1866.

Weather conditions during August in most of the important Piedmont cotton producing counties were not very

Continued on Page 3

N. C. CORN (*Continued*)

commercial counties. Rainfall in this area has been mostly adequate throughout the growing season.

FLUE-CURED TOBACCO (*Continued*)

compared with last month's outlook for 1,275, 1,575 and 1,575 pounds, respectively.

Burley tobacco, on the other hand, has fared rather adversely. Prolonged dry weather in many sections of the Mountains where this tobacco, Type 31, is grown has brought about considerable deterioration of the crop in the areas affected. The current estimated average yield of 1,800 pounds per acre is 150 pounds under the forecast for August 1. This would bring the total production of burley down to 17,640,000 pounds, or 5.3 percent under the 18,620,000 pounds produced last year.

The following table gives the present estimated acreage, yield, and production of North Carolina tobacco by types for 1956:

	ACRES	YIELD	PRODUCTION
Type 11	227,000	1,300	295,100,000
Type 12	282,000	1,625	458,250,000
Type 13	72,000	1,600	115,200,000
Total			
Flue-cured	581,000	1,495	868,550,000
Type 31	9,800	1,800	17,640,000
All Types	590,800	1,500	886,190,000

Total U. S. flue-cured production is estimated at 1,297,320,000 pounds, or 12.5 percent less than the 1955 crop of 1,483,045,000 pounds. The U. S. Burley crop is expected to amount to 485,329,000 pounds or 3.3 percent more than the 469,977,000 pounds produced last year.

RECORD SOYBEAN YIELD AND PRODUCTION INDICATED

Based on reports from growers as of September 1, soybean production is forecast at 8,316,000 bushels -- 64 percent above 1955. If production materializes, it will be a record large crop. The indicated record production is attributed to a record acreage for harvest and a record yield. Indications are for a yield of 21.0 bushels per acre, compared with 15.5 bushels last year and 15.2 bushels for the 10-year average. Last year's yield was adversely affected by the hurricanes.

RECORD CHICK HATCH DURING AUGUST

Commercial hatcheries produced 8,794,000 chicks during August 1956. This was 1,637,000 above the output in August last year and more than double the 5-year average for the month. The number produced during the first 8 months this year totaled 78,589,000 compared with 64,190,000 during the same months last year -- an increase of 22 percent.

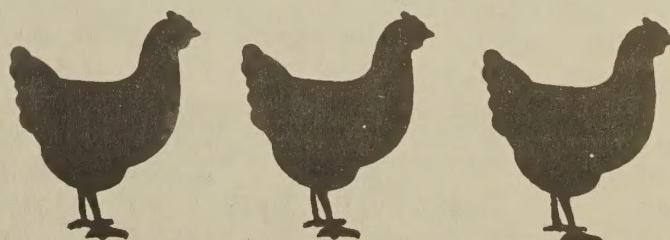
Broiler chick production in August which accounts for 93 percent of the chicks hatched in August totaled 8,179,000, compared with 6,866,000 a year earlier -- an increase of 19 percent. The number of broiler chicks produced January through August totaled 68,802,000 compared with 56,197,000 during the same months last year -- an increase of 22 percent.

Chicks produced other than for broiler production totaled 615,000 compared with 291,000 in August last year. The number of non-broiler chicks, produced January through August totaled 9,787,000 compared with 7,993,000 during the same month last year -- an increase of 23 percent.

UNITED STATES

Commercial hatcheries produced 134,327,000 chicks during August compared with 111,476,000 during the same month in 1955. Broiler chick production totaled 119,824,000 compared with 98,850,000 in August 1955. Chicks produced other than for broiler production totaled 14,503,000 compared with 12,626,000 for the same period a year earlier.

The demand for broiler chicks continues above that of a year ago and a comparatively large hatch of broiler chicks in September is in prospect as the number of broiler chick eggs in incubators on September 1 was 26 percent more than a year earlier. Non-broiler hatches are now at the low point of the year's cycle.



NORTH CAROLINA APPLE CROP

Production of apples in North Carolina for 1956 is estimated as of September 1 to be 1,500,000 bushels compared with the 1945-54 average of 1,239,000 bushels. Indications are that the crop is turning out a little better than was expected a month earlier. On September 1 about one-half of the current crop had been harvested.

COTTON (continued)

favorable for cotton. Extended dry weather has reduced yield prospects in these counties. Highest yields are currently expected in the Coastal Plain counties. The crop in this area was severely damaged by hurricanes last year.

UNITED STATES

For the United States, the September forecast of 13,115,000 bales is 437,000 bales below the August forecast. The major portion of this decrease occurred in Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Alabama, and Mississippi. A United States crop of 13,115,000 bales, if realized, would be 1,606,000 bales less than the 1955 crop of 14,721,000 bales. Details of the report, by States, follows:

AUGUST MILK PRODUCTION UP

Milk production on North Carolina farms during August totaled 160 million pounds. Output for August exceeded that for the comparable period of 1955 by 6 million pounds and the 1945-54 average by 9 percent. Milk production per cow in herds on September 1 averaged 16.7 pounds compared with 16.6 pounds a year earlier and 14.7 pounds for the 10-year average. The percent of milk cows milked on September 1 was 69.3 compared with 71.9 a year ago.

AUGUST EGG PRODUCTION 22 PERCENT ABOVE 1955

Egg production in North Carolina during August 1956 is estimated at 127 million eggs -- 22 percent above the August 1955 production of 104 million.

The number of layers on North Carolina farms during August 1956 was placed at 8,501,000, an increase of 1,087,000 from August 1955. Rate of egg production in August was 1,491 eggs per 100 layers, compared with 1,407 a year ago.

State	1956 Acreage ^{1/}		September 1 Condition			Lint Yield Per Harvested Acre			Production ^{2/} 500-Lb. Gross Wt. Bales		
	Total aban- donment after July 1	For har- vest	Aver- age 1945- 1954	1955	1956	Aver- age 1945- 1954	1955	Indi- cated 1956 Sept. 1	Aver- age 1945- 1954	1955	Indi- cated 1956 Sept. 1
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Thous. Acres</u>		<u>Percent</u>			<u>Pounds</u>			<u>Thousand Bales</u>	
N. C.	3.2	450	73	80	83	321	350	363	457	351	340
S. C.	2.6	677	69	72	73	301	375	379	656	572	535
Ga.	2.3	845	68	79	71	252	376	352	675	701	620
Tenn.	2.2	540	74	85	77	359	523	511	564	623	575
Ala.	3.0	965	68	85	67	281	478	363	880	1,045	730
Miss.	2.7	1,595	71	86	75	340	570	488	1,656	2,023	1,620
Mo.	1.9	370	76	85	85	367	502	532	362	410	410
Ark.	2.5	1,365	72	86	73	339	545	519	1,332	1,663	1,475
La.	5.9	560	67	73	78	336	454	489	536	582	570
Oklahoma	11.9	705	61	77	46	154	281	191	356	463	230
Texas	12.9	6,250	70	75	67	194	281	266	3,518	4,039	3,460
N. Mex.	4.3	179	88	87	94	526	638	704	237	266	235
Ariz.	5.6	357	92	82	96	656	981	1,129	559	728	840
Calif.	3.9	745	93	90	96	659	774	857	1,164	1,205	1,330
Other ^{3/}	7.6	53	-	-	-	284	383	373	47	50	45
U. S.	7.7	15,661	72	81	75	283	417	402	13,093	14,721	13,115

^{1/} Preliminary.

^{2/} Production ginned and to be ginned. A 500-lb. bale contains about 480 net pounds of lint.

^{3/} Virginia, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky and Nevada.

**UNITED STATES
ESTIMATED ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION OF CROPS, SEPTEMBER 1, 1956 WITH COMPARISONS**

CROPS	UNIT	ACREAGE (IN THOUSANDS)			YIELD (IN UNITS)			PRODUCTION (IN THOUSANDS)		
		Average 1945-54	Harvested 1955 <i>L/</i>	Indicated 1956	Average 1945-54	1955	1956	Average 1945-54	1955	Indicated 1956
Corn, All.....	Bu.	83,260	79,900	77,596	37.1	40.6	43.0	3,084,389	3,241,536	3,335,730
Wheat, Winter.....	Bu.	47,810	33,660	35,372	18.3	20.9	20.4	873,690	703,047	721,946
Wheat, All.....	Bu.	67,192	47,255	50,466	17.1	19.8	19.2	1,148,289	936,761	966,574
Oats.....	Bu.	38,912	39,138	35,427	34.1	38.3	32.6	1,327,496	1,499,282	1,154,595
Rarley.....	Bu.	10,443	14,553	12,867	26.6	27.5	28.8	278,166	400,295	370,254
Rye.....	Bu.	1,714	2,092	1,724	12.5	14.2	12.7	21,558	29,678	21,961
TOBACCO:		Flue-Cured.			YIELD (IN UNITS)			PRODUCTION (IN THOUSANDS)		
Sorghum, Burley.....	Lbs.	1,049.2	990.7	880.2	1,214	1,497	1,451	1,270,897	1,483,045	1,276,810
All Types.....	Lbs.	447.0	310.4	311.9	1,310	1,514	1,528	583,853	469,977	476,467
Cotton:		2/			YIELD (IN UNITS)			PRODUCTION (IN THOUSANDS)		
Soybeans, For Beans.....	-	22,060	16,928	15,661	283	417	402	3/ 13,098	3/14,721	3/ 13,115
Peanuts, Alone All Purposes.....	Bu.	7,460	12,839	11,362	18.6	18.8	144	141,334	241,100	163,293
Peanuts, Picked & Threshed.....	Lbs.	2,902	1,898	1,868	1,402	1,414	1,402	226,360	227,046	233,676
Sweetpotatoes:		4/			YIELD (IN UNITS)			PRODUCTION (IN THOUSANDS)		
Sweetpotatoes.....	Cwt.	378.4	341.4	286.8	52.8	61.4	56.7	20,051	20,946	16,257
Soybeans, Alone All Purposes:		5/			YIELD (IN UNITS)			PRODUCTION (IN THOUSANDS)		
Soybeans, For Beans.....	-	14,279	19,710	21,959	20.0	19.9	22.0	253,653	371,106	461,928
Peanuts, Alone All Purposes.....	Bu.	12,698	18,668	20,953	20.0	19.9	22.0	1,809,520	1,564,530	1,445,460
Peanuts, Picked & Threshed.....	Lbs.	2,902	1,898	1,868	790	925	958			
HAY:		6/			YIELD (IN UNITS)			PRODUCTION (IN THOUSANDS)		
Alfalfa.....	Tons	74,382	75,549	75,595	1.39	1.49	1.44	103,648	112,782	108,817
Clover & Timothy <i>5/</i>	Tons	18,941	28,432	29,719	2.19	2.08	2.00	41,315	59,195	59,536
Lespedeza.....	Tons	20,910	16,506	15,316	1.41	1.46	1.39	29,509	24,174	21,316
Pasture, Condition.....	%	6,046	4,063	4,425	1.03	1.16	1.06	6,354	4,708	4,687
Peaches, All:		7/			YIELD (IN UNITS)			PRODUCTION (IN THOUSANDS)		
Apples, Commercial.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-	Z/ 66,989	Z/ 51,827	67,760
Pears, All.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-	Z/105,920	Z/106,234	93,433
Grapes, All.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-	Z/ 30,230	Z/ 29,622	31,311
Pecans, All.....	Tons	-	-	-	-	-	-	Z/ 2,906	Z/ 3,237	2,999
	Lbs.	-	-	-	-	-	-	137,798	146,860	161,375

^{1/} Revised -- based on 1954 Census and other data.

^{2/} Yield per acre in Lbs. -- Production in 500 Lb. gross weight bales.

^{3/} Production in bales of 500 pounds gross weight.

^{4/} Averages 1949-54.

^{5/} Excludes Sweet Clover and Lespedeza Hay.

^{6/} Estimates of the commercial crop refer to total production of apples in commercial apple areas of each state.

^{7/} For some states in certain years production includes some quantities unharvested on account of economic conditions.

**NORTH CAROLINA
ESTIMATED ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION OF CROPS, SEPTEMBER 1, 1956 WITH COMPARISONS**

CROPS	UNIT	ACREAGE (IN THOUSANDS)			YIELD (IN UNITS)			PRODUCTION (IN THOUSANDS)		
		Average 1945-54	Harvested 1955 ^{L/}	Indicated 1956	Average 1945-54	1955	1956	Average 1945-54	1955	1956
Corn, All	Bu.	2,188	2,073	1,969	28.6	34.0	37.0	62,535	70,482	72,853
Wheat, Winter	Bu.	392	319	354	17.9	21.5	25.5	7,028	6,858	9,027
Oats.....	Bu.	348	460	478	31.4	33.0	40.0	10,964	15,180	19,120
Barley.....	Bu.	40	59	59	28.5	28.0	37.0	1,166	1,652	2,183
Rye.....	Bu.	21	24	28	12.8	13.5	14.5	271	324	406
 TOBACCO:										
All.....	Lbs.	710.4	662.8	590.8	1,229	1,505	1,466	871,285	997,395	866,085
Type 11.....	Lbs.	272.1	255.0	227.0	1,129	1,310	1,300	306,828	334,050	295,100
Type 12.....	Lbs.	341.3	317.0	282.0	1,288	1,625	1,625	438,150	515,125	458,250
Type 13.....	Lbs.	85.8	81.0	72.0	1,258	1,600	1,600	107,702	129,600	115,200
All Flue-Cured.....	Lbs.	699.2	653.0	581.0	1,499	1,458	1,458	852,680	978,775	846,975
Type 31, Burley.....	Lbs.	11.2	9.8	9.8	1,650	1,900	1,800	18,605	18,620	17,640
 Cotton.....										
Sorghum Grain.....	-	2/ Cwt.	681	480	450	321	350	363	3/ 675	3/ 492
Irish Potatoes, All ^{4/}	-	48 Cwt.	26	39	80	26.2	28.0	28.0	3/ 3,430	2/ 754
Sweetpotatoes ^{4/}	-	46.5 Lbs.	48	37	36	59	93	76	2,739	2,400
Soybeans, Alone All Purposes.....	-	386	430	516	-	-	-	4,049	5,068	-
Peanuts, Alone All Purposes.....	Bu.	263	327	396	15.2	15.5	21.0	-	-	8,316
Peanuts, Picked and Threshed.....	Bu.	258	198	204	1.218	1,075	1,500	286,900	204,250	-
 Hay:										
All.....	Tons	1,253	1,154	1,145	1.01	1.10	1.06	1,262	1,267	1,218
Clover and Timothy ^{5/}	Tons	105	105	102	1.12	1.20	1.15	118	126	117
Alfalfa.....	Tons	48	80	84	2.04	2.10	2.00	95	168	158
Lespedeza.....	Tons	505	391	407	1.02	1.05	.95	518	411	387
Pasture, Condition.....	%	-	-	-	-	-	-	79	88	72
 Peaches, All.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,559	2/ 40	840
Apples, Commercial ^{6/}	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,239	1,500	-
Pears, All.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-	133	64	-
Grapes, All.....	Tons	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.7	1.1	1.3
Pecans, All.....	Lbs.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,254	350	2,175
Improved Varieties.....	Lbs.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,004	300	1,775
Wild & Seedlings.....	Lbs.	-	-	-	-	-	-	249	50	400

^{1/} Revised -- based on 1954 Census and other data.

^{2/} Yield per acre in Lbs. -- Production in 500 Lb. gross weight bales.

^{3/} Production in bales of 500 Lb. gross weight.

^{4/} Averages 1949-54.

^{5/} Excludes sweetclover and lespedeza hay.

^{6/} Estimates of commercial crop refer to total production in commercial apple areas.

^{7/} 1955 crop almost a complete failure because of spring freeze.

SORGHUM GRAIN IMPROVED

Production of sorghum grain in North Carolina for 1956 is now estimated at 2,240,000 bushels. This is 80,000 bushels more than was expected as of August 1 and is the result of improved yield prospects which now point to an average of 28 bushels per acre, the same as that for last year. With a 10 percent smaller acreage, however, the production would, of course, be reduced by a like proportion from that harvested in 1955.

1956 SWEETPOTATO PRODUCTION EXPECTED SAME AS 1955

The 1956 sweetpotato production, as of September 1, is estimated at 2,520,000 cwt. -- 105 percent of 1955 but is 9 percent below the 10-year average. September 1 condition reports indicate an average yield of 63 cwt. per acre which is 4 cwt. better than a month earlier and is 4 cwt. above the 10-year average. Slight improvement in growing conditions resulted from light to heavy rainfall in the central and southern Coastal Plains counties during August.

Acres for harvest are estimated at 40,000, the same as was harvested in 1955 although 5,000 acres short of the 10-year average.

PRODUCTION FORECAST OF SNAP BEANS

EARLY FALL (East): As of September 1, North Carolina growers indicate they expect to harvest 49,000 bushels of fall snap beans from 700 acres, with an average yield of 70 bushels per acre. Such a crop would be almost three times last year's production of 18,000 bushels, which was greatly curtailed on account of hurricanes and heavy rainfall. Because of last year's adverse conditions and generally unsatisfactory prices, the acreage planted this fall was sharply reduced. With good prospective yields, however, the acreage intended for harvest is 100 more than was harvested last year when most of the crop was abandoned.

LATE SUMMER (West): Reports from growers as of September 1 indicate that they expect to harvest 660,000 bushels from an estimated 6,000 acres for an average yield of 110 bushels per acre. This is 28.5 percent below the 923,000 bushels harvested last year from 7,100 acres and 66,000 bushels under average.

PECAN PRODUCTION EXPECTED NEAR AVERAGE

The 1956 pecan production for North Carolina is forecast at 2,175,000 pounds, compared with 350,000 pounds in 1955 and 2,254,000 pounds for the 10-year average. The 1955 crop was short due to an early Spring freeze and the 1954 crop was well below average when considerable damage occurred on account of hurricane Hazel. For the current production it is estimated that 1,775,000 pounds will be from improved varieties and 400,000 pounds will come from seedlings.

UNITED STATES

September 1 condition of pecans points to a production of 161.4 million pounds in 1956 compared with 146.9 million pounds in 1955 and the 1945-54 average of 137.8 million pounds. All of the prospective increase over last year's production is for the crop of improved varieties. Indicated production of improved varieties total 93.9 million pounds compared with 42.4 million in 1955 and seedlings are estimated at 67.4 million pounds compared with 104.5 million last year.

ALL HAY PRODUCTION SLIGHTLY LOWER

Based on condition and yield reports from growers as of September 1, all hay production is forecast at 1,218,000 tons compared with 1,238,000 on August 1, and 1,267,000 tons in 1955 and 1,262,000 for the 10-year average. Production estimates by kinds that remained the same as on August 1 are shown in tons as follows: Alfalfa 168,000; Clover and Timothy 117,000; Soybean 92,000; Peanut 144,000; Grain 200,000, and other kinds 110,000. The lespedeza crop, grown principally in the Piedmont section, declined from an estimated 407,000 to 387,000 tons during the month. This crop has suffered from prolonged dry soils and average yield is indicated at .95 tons per acre compared with 1.05 in 1955 and 1.02 tons for the 1945-54 average. Growing conditions were favorable for soybeans and peanuts during the month and the current crop yields are expected to be above average.

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR AUGUST, 1956

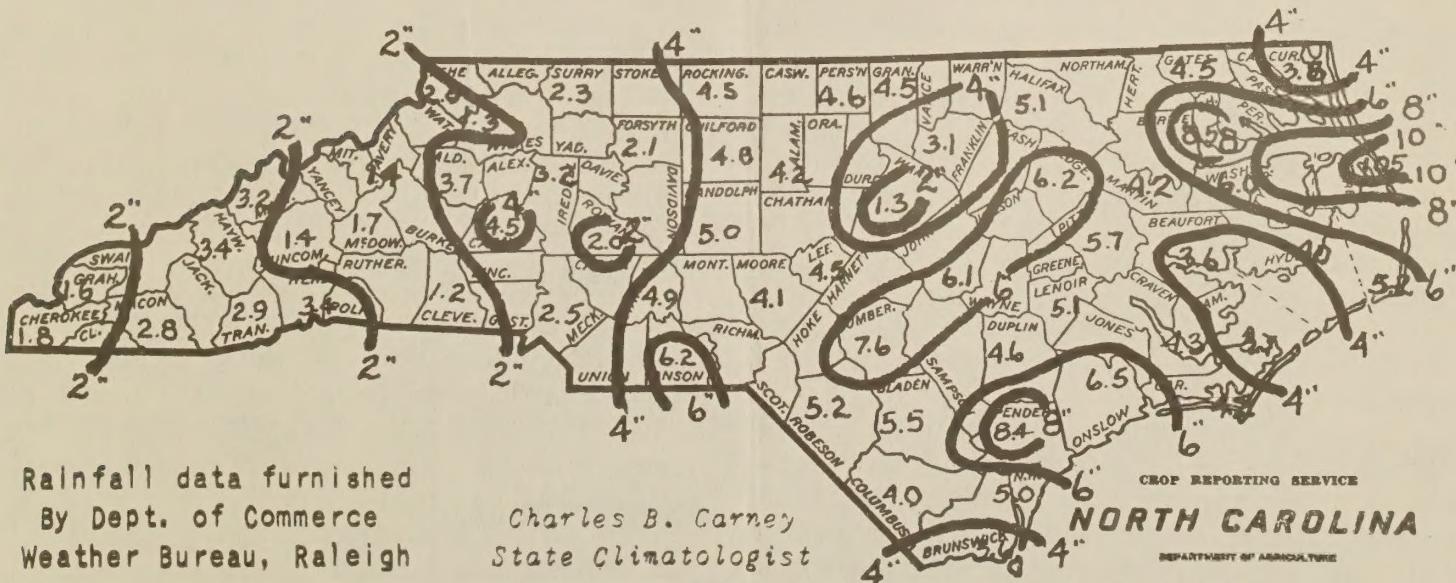
August weather in North Carolina was typical of mid-summer, consistently but not unusually warm with frequent but quite variable thundershowers and light average wind speed. Tropical storm Betsy, which was discovered in the Caribbean sea on the 10th and passed off the North Carolina coast on the 16th and 17th, caused some anxiety, but never got near enough the mainland to affect the weather more than very slightly. A slow moving weather front lay in or near the State from the 10th through the 15th, and another the 24th - 26th, while the only distinct cool front of the month crossed North Carolina from the northwest on the 20th and 21st. Each of these fronts caused some increase in thundershowers over the State.

The variation from highest to lowest temperature during August was less than 40 degrees at most North Carolina stations, but a few places in the southwestern Piedmont both exceeded 100 degrees and dropped below 60. Elsewhere in the State the highest temperatures of the month were generally in the middle or upper nineties. The highest temperature noted was 103 at Wadesboro; this was the only oc-

currence as high as 100 at that station, however, while Charlotte and Monroe had several 100 degree afternoons. On the cool side, the station at Banner Elk reported a low of 36 degrees the morning of the 22nd. Most stations outside the Mountains did not drop below the middle or upper fifties at any time during August.

Rainfall at the various North Carolina stations during August ranged from less than one inch to more than ten inches. In general, the Mountains and southwestern Piedmont were the driest sections of the State, with rainfall totals ranging mostly from one to four inches. The wettest section was the northern coast, where the Manteo-Nags Head area received around ten inches. Since most of the rain came in scattered thundershowers, there were wet and dry spots in all general sections of the State. Rainfall totals were not a complete indication of wet or dry conditions; the 1.31 inch total at the Raleigh-Durham Airport was sufficiently well distributed to prevent severe drought, while 27 days elapsed between the two heavy rains that accounted for nine of the ten-and-a-half inches that fell at Manteo.

INCHES OF RAINFALL FOR AUGUST, 1956



FARM REPORT

Compiled by authority of
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service
Agricultural Estimates Division
S. R. Newell, Director

Published by

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Statistics

L. Y. Ballentine, Commissioner of Agriculture

Released semi-monthly through the
Crop Reporting Service at Raleigh

Henry L. Rasor, Statistician in Charge

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LENGTH OF FARM WORK DAY

LOCATION AND TYPE LABOR	Sept. 1 1954	Sept. 1 1955	Sept. 1 1956
<u>HOURS</u>			
NORTH CAROLINA: Operators.... Hired Workers	10.4 8.9	10.3 9.0	9.9 8.6
UNITED STATES: Operators.... Hired Workers	10.6 9.3	10.6 9.2	10.2 9.0